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A JUBILEE



RENE A. MARCHAND

To-day we are happy to extend our sincere congratulations to Mr. René A. Marchand, of Messrs. Marchand & Jobin Ltd., 100 Hatton Garden, E.C.1, on his having completed fifty years' residence in this country.

Mr. René Marchand was born in 1892 at Bienne, where he received his schooling. Like so many of his compatriots, he was eager to gain experience abroad, and the way took him to Pforzheim, where he attended school, and later he studied at the Commercial School in Karlsruhe. On leaving school he was apprenticed in Geneva, and thereafter a year was spent at Belgrade, followed by a spell in his father's factory at Bienne.

In 1910 Mr. Marchand came to London, where he entered the firm which then represented — amongst others — the house of Marchand, Monnier & Cie, watch manufacturers in Switzerland; with them he remained for three years.

During that time he had the good fortune of meeting Mr. L. Jobin, and there started a friendship which has produced such splendid results, because in 1913 René Marchand and Léon Jobin commenced business in partnership. René Marchand actively interested himself in the sales direction of Marchand & Jobin Ltd., established branches in Manchester, Glasgow, Birmingham, Liverpool and other centres as well as in New York. Not content with these ventures, René Marchand founded and is a director of many other

companies — Simplex Watch Cases Ltd., and Platinum Watch Cases Ltd., to name but two in the trade. In addition he successfully launched several companies in other spheres. He was also a co-founder of the well-known British Watch Cases Ltd., of Pentonville Road, London.

During the first World War Mr. Marchand was busily engaged in the production of munitions, when he was in charge of the factory at Chiswick. An excerpt from an official letter signed by Lord Torphinchen shows the esteem with which he was regarded; the noble lord "desires to place on record the great services you have rendered to this section of the Ministry, and the unfailing courtesy and energetic assistance you have displayed".

Mr. R. Marchand is a member of the City Swiss Club; he is a keen Freemason, being a Past-Master of the Brondesbury Lodge and the Helvetica Lodge. During the last war Mr. and Mrs. R. Marchand lost their only son, Pilot Officer Roy A. Marchand; he was shot down in the great air battle over London on Sunday, 15th September 1940.

As will be seen from these short notes, the "Jubilar" leads an active life — and a full one, too — and we hope he will be amongst us for many years to come.

ST.

AN APPEAL

As usual at this time of the year, the SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY and the SWISS CHURCHES IN LONDON appeal to all their Swiss friends for gifts in kind or in cash to provide for a little extra cheer at Christmas for our compatriots in need. New articles of clothing, or old ones in clean and good condition ready-to-wear, and also household goods, are always greatly appreciated.

Parcels should be sent, preferably not later than the middle of November, to the Swiss Benevolent Society, at 31 Conway Street, Fitzroy Square, London W.1, whilst gifts in cash may be addressed to any one of the addresses below:—

Swiss Benevolent Society, 31 Conway Street, London W.1; Rev. Ph. Nicole, 7 Park View Road, Finchley, London N.3; Rev. P. Wipf, 1 Womersley Road, London N.8; Rev. J. Scherer, St. Ann's Church, Abbey Orchard Street, London S.W.1.

A BAZAAR

The Eglise Suisse de Londres and the Schweizerkirche are holding a Bazaar on Saturday, 12th November 1960, at Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1 (opening at 12 noon), for the sale of Swiss goods, fancy goods, children's clothing, comestibles, and a variety of useful articles. Luncheons will be served from 12.30, and also tea and light refreshments will be available. Gifts to be sent to Rev. Ph. Nicole, 7 Park View Road, N.3, and Rev. P. Wipf, 1 Womersley Road, N.8.